

Date: May 15, 2012

GET 'OUT AND ABOUT' WITH OPTALIS' NEW SERVICE!

Optalis has launched an exciting, brand new 'Out and About' service this month. Operated by Optalis' well-established Day Services, Out and About will operate during evenings and weekends and is aimed primarily at individuals with a learning disability and individuals with physical disabilities.

The service, which is available to both existing clients of Optalis and new customers, will provide individualised support to enable users to access their local social groups, hobbies, and community facilities.

The service is able to offer customers the following:

- Competitive care packages tailored to meet customers' individual needs.
- 1:1 support from experienced, well-trained staff so that customers can successfully access the community and attend social activities.
- Access to transport, including our specialised vehicles; the service has access to a fleet of cars, people carriers and small tail lift vehicles.
- A Loyalty Scheme for regular customers; book four sessions and receive a fifth session, free.

The team of staff behind the service take the time to research what customers would like to do with their time before then exploring the possible opportunities available to them in the community. This information is being used to compile a Directory of Activities database which will hold a list of appropriate activities in and around the area so that in the future customers will have a ready-made list to choose from in case they need inspiration about what to try.

Team manager Karyn Fowle said: "We want to offer real choice to our customers and so our service is based around what customers would really like to do with their time, rather than trying to fit them into some kind of prescribed itinerary to suit the organisation.

“I’m proud to say that our staff are committed and dedicated to helping our customers receive real tailored care and support.”

-ENDS-

Notes to editors

1. More information from team manager Karyn Fowle on (0118) 989 9750 or email:

out&about@optalis.org

2. Optalis is a private limited company, wholly-owned by Wokingham Borough Council. The company launched in June 2011, and offers a wide range of care and support services for older people and people with a disability. For more information about Optalis, please visit www.optalis.org or call (0118) 974 6832.